

Because in the next 7 days, they are going to force both through this House.

Today, the same Republicans that cut summer jobs and school lunches are coming to this floor to defend the right of billionaires in order to avoid paying taxes.

In fact, 2 days ago, every Republican but five voted to keep this loophole for billionaires in place.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans may be marching in lockstep with NEWT GINGRICH to give tax breaks to the privileged few.

But one thing is clear: They are out of step with the American people.

#### SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT ON TAX REDUCTIONS

(Mr. KNOLLENBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, there they go again. The Democratic propaganda machine is working overtime this week trying to convince the American people that the Republican tax reduction package is reserved only for the rich. Nothing could be further from the truth.

It is time to tell the truth about our tax cuts and let the American people know that if they used the Democrats calculations of "income" and "rich" they would have a lot more work to do on their 1040 tax forms this year.

The Democratic leadership inflates your income by adding all sorts of things you and I would never dream of including: Social Security contributions, AFDC payments, employer-provided benefits like health care and pension contributions, capital gains on assets you still own, and they even include in your income what your net return would be if you rented the house you live in at market value.

This manipulation of income is a gross distortion of family income and to those struggling to make ends meet it just does not add up. It is no wonder the American people think Washington is out of touch with the rest of America.

Mr. Speaker, we need tax relief but we need an honest presentation of the facts.

#### TAX CUTS FOR THE WEALTHY

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the house for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, while republicans in Congress may not be able to agree on terms limits, when it comes to tax cuts for the wealthy, they are all singing the same tune. Whether preserving tax loopholes for billionaires or eliminating corporate taxes, Republicans are in the same key. And who is paying for this medley of tax cuts? Middle class, working families, that's who.

Just look at whom Republicans are turning to next to help finance their windfall to the wealthy. Middle class families trying to send their kids to school. Believe it or not, they propose 75 percent of the financial aid currently awarded to American students.

Working middle-class families rely on student loan programs to provide a better future for their children. Speaker GINGRICH and many Republicans in this body took out student loans to pay for their education. Do not deny that same opportunity to the students of today. Do not pull up the ladder behind you. Let us work to preserve students loans, not tax loopholes for billionaires.

#### PASS A TAX RELIEF PLAN

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, Thomas Jefferson had it right when he said, "a wise and frugal government \* \* \* shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned."

Liberals would reject that sound advice.

However, Republicans will revive that Jeffersonian spirit by passing a tax relief plan that is pro-family, will create jobs, and increase saving and investment. We will pay for these tax cuts by putting the Federal Government on a strict diet. We will scrutinize the entire budget to find waste fraud and abuse.

Now you will hear a lot from the Democrats about fairness.

But is it fair to penalize middle-class families for saving for the future?

Is it fair to rob our children's future to pay for Clinton's spending binge?

I say no. It is time to change business as usual.

#### PROTECT COLLEGE STUDENT AID PROGRAMS

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the Contract With America has targeted at least four major college student aid programs either for serious reduction or elimination altogether.

Mr. Speaker, we are talking about the lives and future of some 6.5 million college and university students throughout America, especially those from middle- and low-income families that may never have an opportunity to pursue higher education if these cuts are made.

Mr. Speaker, I am a byproduct of the National Student Defense Loan Program and I would have never completed my studies at the university level if it had not been for this program. I think the students of America should have the same opportunity.

I plead with my colleagues across the aisle, let us keep college, help college students to obtain training and education in universities. It is our future and our Nation's greatest wealth and resource.

Mr. Speaker, let us not rob the millions of college students throughout America of their opportunity for a better education. The Congress owes it to these young people.

#### TAX RELIEF FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND WORKING FAMILIES

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, after our historic first ever vote in the House on term limits last night, we now turn our attention to the last items in the Contract With America. It is now time to keep our promise with the American people by bringing up legislation to offer tax relief to senior citizens and working families.

I am sure all of my colleagues remember the Clinton Democrat tax plan in 1993, the plan that raised taxes on Social Security benefits for the American elderly. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority is going to repeal this Democrat tax and offer more tax relief for our grandmothers and grandfathers.

Republicans are also bringing to the floor the Senior Citizens Equity Act which offers further tax relief for our elderly who are currently penalized by a system that cuts Social Security benefits for those who wish to continue working past the age of 65.

Mr. Speaker, I just do not understand why the Democrats want to continue punishing senior citizens, and I hope the liberal Democrats will join with Republicans to help senior citizens.

#### RESCISSIONS

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, education funding was one of the casualties of the Republican rescission package.

More cuts in education are planned. These cuts seem inconsistent.

Education, as its first priority, teaches independence, self reliance, self sufficiency.

Education is cut—student loans are eliminated—how will students be prepared for works?

A welfare reform bill passed last week, aimed at moving the poor from welfare to work. However, with no provision for training or jobs, where will they work?

These policies are puzzling. Education and work lead to opportunity. Opportunity is the foundation for living.

One must wonder where our colleagues on the right are taking this Nation.